

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended) AA~~n~~ polypeptide enzyme isolated from a microorganism,  
  
wherein said polypeptide has having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to thereby release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,  
  
wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,  
  
wherein said polypeptide enzyme has enzymatic a substantial activity even at a pH 2.5 to 3, or less and  
  
wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less,  
  
wherein said polypeptide has an approximate molecular weight in a range of about 47 kDa to about 51 kDa, and  
  
wherein the microorganism is selected from the genus *Aspergillus*, the genus *Penicillium*, the genus *Rhizopus*, the genus *Rhizomucor*, the genus *Talaromyces*, the genus *Mortierella*, the genus *Cryptococcus*, the genus *Microbacterium*, the genus *Corynebacterium* and the genus *Actinoplanes*.

2. (currently amended) The polypeptide enzyme according to claim 1, wherein said disaccharide glycoside is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -primeveroside, a rutinose glycoside, a gentiobiose glycoside, an arabinofuranosyl glycoside and an aviofuranosyl glycoside and/or an analogous disaccharide glycoside.

3. (currently amended) A variant of a polypeptide ~~isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide~~ having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing,

wherein said variant comprises an amino acid sequence having a modification of one or more amino acid residues compared with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, ~~of the amino acid sequence are said modification selected from the group consisting modified by at least one of deletion, addition, insertion and substitution,~~

wherein said variant has at least 95% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, and

wherein said variant has also having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit, wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

wherein said variant has activity at pH 2.5 to 3, and

wherein said variant is stable at 50°C or less.

4. (previously presented) A polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing.

5-10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A method for producing a polypeptide an enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit, wherein said disaccharide glycoside has a glucose moiety at the aglycon side,

said method comprising which comprises (1) culturing a microorganism in a nutrient medium to effect production of the polypeptide, wherein said culturing is performed under aerobic conditions with a pH in a range of 5-6, at 30°C, and wherein said nutrient medium contains a saccharide inducer~~enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit,~~ and subsequently (2) collecting said polypeptide enzyme from the resulting culture mixture,

wherein said polypeptide enzyme has enzymatic a substantial activity even at pH 2.5 to 3, or less and wherein said polypeptide is stable at 50°C or less, wherein said polypeptide has an approximate molecular weight in a range of about 47 kDa to about 51 kDa, and

wherein the microorganism is selected from the genus *Aspergillus*, the genus *Penicillium*, the genus *Rhizopus*, the genus *Rhizomucor*, the genus *Talaromyces*, the genus *Mortierella*, the genus *Cryptococcus*, the genus *Microbacterium*, the genus *Corynebacterium* and the genus *Actinoplanes*.

12. (canceled).

13. (currently amended) The method for producing a polypeptide an enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said

disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit according to claim 11-~~or~~12, wherein the polypeptide enzyme is inducible by addition of a saccharide to the nutrient medium.

14. (currently amended) The method for producing a polypeptide an enzyme according to claim 13, wherein the saccharide is selected from the group consisting of gentose, gentiobiose, and gentio-oligosaccharide.

15-21. (canceled).

22. (new) An isolated polypeptide represented by amino acids 1-466 of SEQ ID NO:8.